

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 05396 301319Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SCA-01 SS-15

NSC-05 A-01 MCT-01 USSS-00 /070 W

-----008091 301409Z /42

R 301150Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2509

INFO AMCONSUL RECIFE

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 5396

RIO PASS CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC PDIP BR

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO INCIDENT INVOLVING PRINCIPAL OFFICER

REFS: (A) RECIFE 0139 (B) BRASILIA 5305

1. NATIONAL PRESS COVERAGE OF INCIDENT JUNE 29 HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE, FOCUSING ON DETAILS AS EXPLAINED IN REF (A), PARTICULARLY FACT THAT STUDENT ASSAILANT HAD ADMITTED FIRING AT BRAZILIAN ACCOMPANYING CONSUL HOFFENBERG, ALBERQUERQUE PEREIRA, AFTER ALLEGED PEREIRA IMPROPRIETIES IN HOTEL BAR. TV NATIONAL NEWS AT PRIME TIME JUNE 28 CARRIED EXTENSIVE FOOTAGE OF INCIDENT SHOWING BULLET HOLE IN CAR AND BRIEF EXPLANATION OF INCIDENT BY HOFFERNBERG.

2. PRESS HAS ALSO NOTED THAT EMBASSY FURNISHED ITAMARATY WITH AIDE MEMOIRE LIMITED TO FACTS OF INCIDENT AS EMBASSY UNDERSTOOD THEM (REF B). ITAMARATI ISSUED BRIEF STATEMENT TO PRESS JUNE 28: "THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS LAMENTS THE OCCURENCE IN RECIFE AND REGISTERS ITS
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 05396 301319Z

SATISFACTION THAT THE CONSUL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE PEOPLE ACCOMPANYING HIM DID NOT SUFFER ANY HARM. POLICE AUTHORITIES ARE INVESTIGATING THE INCIDENT." PRESS ALSO NOTED THAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE FALCAO TELEPHONED PERNAMBUCO GOVERNOR TO URGE ON THE INQUIRY INTO THE INCIDENT. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO NOTED THAT GOVERNOR WAS VISIBLY CONCERNED THAT CASE

MIGHT CREATE DIPLOMATIC INCIDENT, AND AT THE END OF THE DAY IN COMMENTING ON INVESTIGATION SAID, "THANK GOD IT WAS NOT A POLITICAL ATTEMPT."

3. IN ONLY COMMENT THUS FAR, FOLHA DE SAO PAULO CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK PAULO FRANCIS WROTE THAT HIS SOURCES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAD CONCLUDED HOFFENBERG'S DEFENSE OF MALTREATED MISSIONARIES ROSEBAUGH AND CAPUANO IRRITATED BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES. FRANCIS NOTED HOFFENBERG HAD HOSTED MRS. CARTER AND PRESUMABLY BRIEFED HER FULLY ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BRAZIL. FRANCIS SAID THERE WOULD BE NO OFFICIAL PROTEST BY THE USG, BUT ARTICLE IMPLIED DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS SUSPECTED SOME LINKAGE BETWEEN SHOOTING AND HOFFENBERG DEFENSE OF MISSIONARIES. JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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From: BRASILIA
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ISecure: 1
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